

Increasing Breast Cancer Awareness, One T-Shirt and Stitch at a Time

Written by Elizabeth Sollis, Executive Director's Office
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If you've been pondering retirement and what to do once you're finally 'there,' this article may help.

Linda O'Brien worked for Utah Department of Human Services (DHS)/Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) and Don Enniss worked for Utah Department of Human Services (DHS)/Technology Services (DTS) for many years. One of their main responsibilities was working on the Unified Social Services Delivery System (USSDS) – a payment system that was created in 1981. After 65 years (combined) of working for DHS/DTS, they decided to retire.

O'Brien and her sister Carolyn opened *My Sister's Quilts* – a fabric and quilting store. Enniss stepped up his volunteer activities with the *Happy Factory*

,
Salt Lake City Track Club
and the
Susan G. Komen Foundation

. "He (Enniss) is an avid volunteer," said O'Brien. "I've only been involved (in volunteering for the Susan G. Komen foundation) since it came to Salt Lake," Enniss replied.

While still in the early stages of their 'retirement,' O'Brien and Enniss returned to DHS/DTS as part-time contract employees to assist with the new FINET system for Don, and the new CAPS system for Linda. Being part-time, they are both able to continue with most of their retirement activities. Unfortunately, however, Enniss hasn't had time to volunteer at the Happy Factory – a place that makes wooden toys for underprivileged children. "I'm looking forward to going back and making toys again," he stated.

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As a regular volunteer for races and walks, Enniss has a slew of volunteer t-shirts and gave several of them to O'Brien who offered to make a quilt to donate to the *Fight Like a Girl Susan G. Komen Survivor Luncheon*. "We've had lot of family members who have had cancer," said O'Brien. "In August, one of our employees (at *My Sister's Quilts*) died of leukemia, so awareness is really important to me."

Those at My Sister's Quilts who were responsible for making the quilt happen are: Jen Hinwood – who designed the quilt, Carolyn Weight – who pieced it together, Amber Cox – who did the embroidery and Paula Everill – who quilted it, to create a beautiful masterpiece that was raffled off at the Survivor Luncheon in Salt Lake on Saturday, October 1.

For more information about the Utah Cancer Control Program and to find out if you qualify for UCCP services, call 1-800-717-1811 or visit their website, www.cancerutah.org.